



Angélica Infante-Green
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Enclosure 5c
June 29, 2021

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TO: Members of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner *A. Infante*

RE: Recommendation of Nominee to the School for the Deaf Board of Trustees

The Rhode Island Department of Education is recommending the following nominee to fill a vacancy on the RI School for the Deaf Board of Trustees:

- **Dr. Jesús Rēmigiō**

I interviewed Dr. Rēmigiō on his background, qualifications and goals, and I am confident that he possesses the experience and commitment to advance the goals and mission of the RI School for the Deaf.

RECOMMENDATION: That, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves the recommendation of Dr. Jesús Rēmigiō to the RI School for the Deaf Board of Trustees, as presented.

Candidates for Boards of Trustees at State-Operated Schools

Rhode Island School for the Deaf

Candidate: Jesús Rēmigiō

1. *Background:*

What led you to be interested in serving on the Board of Trustees?

I have always been one to take initiative in helping others or assisting in bettering situations. An educational institution is a place that must constantly change and improve with the times. Having graduated from this school, I feel a personal fondness for the programs offered, as well as the bright future that can be had. I know that I can bring an aspect of diversity to the Board. Originally from another country (Dominican Republic), and growing up in a fluent Spanish-speaking family, I am endowed with the ability to communicate in two languages, Spanish and English. My contribution to the Board of Trustees can serve not only as a cultural diversity boost, but I can also identify with minority groups and their potential struggle to acclimate to the educational setting in America.

2. *Qualifications:*

What qualities and strengths from your background and experience will you bring to the Board if you are chosen to serve?

If chosen to serve, a major quality that I can bring from my background is resilience. In other words, when I fall, I get back up again...and it has always been as such. Born and raised in the Dominican Republic, Spanish was my first language. In addition to English being my second language, I grew up as a Deaf individual, commonly ostracized and made to feel that what I had to offer was never good enough. However, through the years, I continued to welcome education and build my strength not only intellectually, but as well, emotionally and physically. That is just one area of what I can offer as a member of the Board of Trustees. I also have an array of experience in managing, leading, mentoring, and executing plans for the improvement of various organizations.

3. *Goals:*

Is there any particular area or initiative that you would like to focus on as a new member of the Board of Trustees?

As a member of the Board of Trustees, I would be keenly interested in managing the financial budget, whereby, I could utilize my many years of experience in collecting and providing relevant data. For example, with the use of much visualization data and reports, I could help in bringing better understanding to any who require information regarding the school's budget. I know that this is something that I could do very well.

Dr. Jesús Manuel Rémigiō

Providence, RI 02906

401-269-0261

jesus4ask@gmail.com

QUALIFICATIONS SUMMARY

I am a professional, with substantial experience working in fast-paced environments, which demand strong organizational leadership, budgetary and managerial responsibilities, as well as technical and interpersonal skills. In addition, I am ethical, a team builder, and a self-starter; committed to superior job performance. My involvement in various organizations and committees fortifies me with the knowledge, efficiency, ethics, and adequate approach necessary for changing society for the better.

CORE PROFESSIONAL STRENGTHS

• Critical Thinking • Collaboration • Ability to communicate proficiently with excellent organizational and management skills • Data Analytical • Negotiation • Work Ethic • Flexibility • Presentation

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Associate Director, Student Accessibility Services at Brown University, Providence, RI, 2019-Current

- Work with the Director to review office policies and procedures to ensure ADA compliance
- Work with the Director, department staff and Campus Life colleagues to develop both short term and long range goals and set measurable strategic priorities
- Assess department systems and processes for efficiency and impact
- Develop strategies for program assessment
- Play a collaborative role with campus partners and department staff, particularly with Office of Inclusion, Equity and Diversity to develop diversity and inclusion initiatives, contributing to the department's Diversity Inclusion Action Plan
- Collaborate and coordinate with department staff to provide education and training for students, faculty and staff as needed and requested
- Assist the Director in oversight of the Department's resources and administrative operations
- Supervision of administrative staff
- Ensure that reasonable accommodations are provided for registered students
- Consult with the Director on those requests that are layered with complexity
- Collaborate and coordinate with department staff to provide education and training for students, faculty and staff
- Assist the Director in departmental budget monitoring, analysis, and reporting as well as contract oversight
- Duties as otherwise assigned

Program Coordinator, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital, Worcester, MA 2013 - 2019

- Exercise ability to build trusting relationships in consultation with doctors, therapists, administrators and all staff
- Maintain professional and caring attitude in role of Certified Deaf Interpreter
- Successfully oversee development of program, long and short-term plans, and monitor progress

- Collaborate in curriculum design/material development for American Sign Language courses
- Use strong ability to 'think outside of the box' in all situations
- Professionally and appropriately handle confidential issues
- Utilize knowledge of linguistic and cultural aspects of American Sign Language
- Professionally perform communication assessments
- Maintain professional and caring attitude in role of program coordinator
- Organize training seminars to address staff and patient needs
- Consistently meet and professionally mentor clients to foster positive relationships
- Develop necessary materials to assist students with helpful instructional strategies
- Keep informed about the latest technology in the field of Deaf instructional and support services
- Creatively use skills to present at Deaf Culture and Mental Health symposiums/ conferences/ lectures
- Collaborate with colleagues on committees such as Taskforce Violence, Family Therapy, and Deaf Awareness
- Engage in Massachusetts Aspiring Supervisor and Succession Planning (MasSP) training program

Freelancer Certified Deaf Interpreter, Self-Employed, RI and MA 2015 - Present

- Adhere to the Code of Ethics for Interpreters
- Manage successfully the use of gesture, mime, props, drawings, and all tools to enhance communication
- Consistently work with a broad range of clients from various backgrounds; very diverse population
- Display keen use of skills in American Sign Language Linguistics, Interpreting Processes, Consecutive and Simultaneous Interpreting
- Strongly facilitate Sight/Test Translation and Visual Gestural Communication

Adjunct Instructor, Bristol Community College, Fall River, MA 2014 - 2016

- Utilized excellent knowledge of the most recent information in the field of linguistic and cultural aspects of American Sign Language.
- Executed the task of teaching courses as defined in the educational curriculum and policies
- Prepared lesson plans and provided instructions to students in various areas of learning
- Handled the responsibility of evaluating and monitoring the performance of students
- Displayed keen insight in the evaluation of the abilities of students

Adjunct Instructor, Community College of Rhode Island, Warwick, RI 2013 - 2017

- Utilized knowledge and experience with Vista College's Signing Naturally Curriculum
- Put to use exceptional knowledge of linguistic and cultural aspects of American Sign Language
- Shouldering the responsibility of grading students' level of learning by using various assessment techniques
- Performing the task of developing measures to provide safe classroom and effective learning environment for the students
- Executed the task of teaching courses as defined in the educational curriculum and policies
- Prepared lesson plans and provided instructions to students in various areas of learning
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- Behavior Specialist, Rhode Island School for the Deaf, Providence, RI 2010 - 2013
- Supported and assisted in the implementation of behavioral plans
 - Demonstrated excellent problem-solving and superior decision-making skills
 - Successfully implemented behavioral modification programs
- Behavior Specialist, Perspective Corporation, New Kingstown, RI 2011 - 2012
- Worked closely with parents within the family's home or community
 - Assisted in completing all necessary reports and records
 - Ensured and documented daily progress
- Substitute Teacher, Rhode Island School for the Deaf, Providence, RI 2011 - 2013
- Facilitated lessons in Deaf History, Deaf Culture, and American Sign Language (ASL)
 - Planning and distributing syllabi that contain assignments and course
 - Handled the task of developing and implementing lesson plans to meet the educational goals and objectives
 - Performed the responsibility of identifying the students' needs and developing effective classroom management procedures
- Adjunct Instructor, Providence College, RI 2012 - 2013
- Extensive knowledge of sign language instructional methodologies and basic gestures
 - Demonstrated outstanding interaction with all students
 - Performing the responsibility of educating about the use of sign languages by using standard educational methods
 - Effectively instructed lessons in an engaging manner which aided in life-long learning
 - Ability to communicate proficiently with excellent organizational and management skills
- Research Assistant, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY 2008 - 2009
- Provided research support in cellular and molecular studies
 - Completed short term research project on supervisor's thesis
 - Worked closely with college faculties to have proper research resources available for specific research projects.
 - Maintain specimens collected by field workers
 - Analyze characteristics of specimens under a microscope
 - Document findings and compile reports
 - Monitor development and changes in specimen traits over a period of three months
 - Clean and maintain lab equipment
 - Set up and prepare lab environment for tests and assessments to take place

EDUCATION:

- William James College, Psy.D in Leadership Psychology 2019
- Salem International University, Master in Business Administration 2013
- Rochester Institute of Technology, B.S. in Biomedical Science 2009

AFFILIATION:

- Member, Colleagues Of Color for Social Justice Committee 2020 - current
- Member, RI Governor's Commission of Disabilities Employment Committee 2020 - Current.
- Co-Chair, University Rainbow Staff Alliance At Brown University 2020 - Current
- Board member, University Rainbow Staff Alliance, Providence RI, 2020 - Current
- Board Member, Our Deaf Survivors Center, Worcester, MA 2014 - 2018

- Co-Chairperson, Cultural Diversity Committee, Worcester, MA 2014 - 2019
- Assistant Chairperson, Deaf Interpreter Conference, Worcester, MA 2014 - 2016
- President, Rhode Island Association for the Deaf, Providence, RI 2009 - 2012
- Commissioner, Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Providence, RI 2009 - 2013
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- Co-Presenter, Webinar About Mental Health Access & Stigmatization 2020 by Hamilton-Wenham Human Rights Coalition 2020

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PUBLISHED AUTHOR:

- Bhuvaneswaran C., Burke B., Colon J., Matthews J., Stern T.A. Psychiatric Care of Deaf Patients in the General Hospital: An overview 2014
- Geller, J., Remigio, J. "Lost in Translation." 2015

REFERENCES FURNISHED UPON REQUEST

Bio: Jesus Remigio

Born on the beautiful island, Dominican Republic, there was much natural beauty, but little opportunity for education and career. At the age of 7, my family relocated to Rhode Island. That time was a pivotal point in my life, as I was able to attend RI School for the Deaf, which enabled me to receive qualified and suitable education. My zest for life and learning were made evident when I became the first person in my family to receive a doctorate degree.

I am the Associate Director of Student Accessibility Services at Brown University. I take much pride in what I do, which largely entails assisting with the overseeing of budgetary responsibilities, as well as supporting the Director of Student Accessibility Services. In addition, a daily responsibility is managing and collaborating with staff in other areas of our department. As a graduate of Rhode Island School for the Deaf, I have a special fondness for this school. Therefore, as a board member, I could work toward fulfilling my desire to see the best happen with this school, for the benefit of future generations to come. Evidently, I am keen on the portion of my role which involves engaging with students and the community in order to help students get the most out of every opportunity, as they focus on their studies. Nowadays, diversity is a staple in any well-rounded setting, regardless of industry. I am all for diversity.

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